



Media Information
ABB FIA Formula E Championship
10th March 2019

Eventful race in tricky conditions: Félix da Costa in the points in rainy Hong Kong.

- **António Félix da Costa finishes tenth for BMW i Andretti Motorsport at the Hong Kong E-Prix.**
- **Rain ensures the 50th E-Prix in the history of Formula E is held in tricky conditions.**
- **Alexander Sims fails to finish.**

Hong Kong. BMW i Andretti Motorsport was unable to back up the impressive performances of recent races in tricky conditions at the 50th E-Prix in the history of the ABB FIA Formula E Championship. The team did, however, manage to pick up points again in the fifth race of the season, courtesy of tenth place for António Félix da Costa (POR). Alexander Sims (GBR) failed to finish the Hong Kong E-Prix (CHN) after damaging his BMW iFE.18 when he hit the crash barriers.

Repeated showers made qualifying a major challenge. With track conditions changing all the time, the pursuit of the best grid positions was something of a lottery at times. Sims and Félix da Costa ultimately had to settle for 13th and 20th place.

The race was neutralised several times after incidents and was suspended on one occasion allowing the BMW i8 Coupé Safety Car to make several appearances on track. While Sims dropped back as the result of a number of incidents, before eventually retiring, Félix da Costa was able to stay out of all the turmoil and steadily worked his way up through the field – thanks partly to FANBOOST. In the final laps, his fightback was rewarded with tenth place and one point towards the overall standings.

Reactions to the Hong Kong E-Prix:

Roger Griffiths (Team Principal BMW i Andretti Motorsport):

“That is not the result we were looking for in Hong Kong. We arrived here with high expectations. The circuit should actually have suited us and António has been extremely competitive here in the past. The conditions were very difficult and





qualifying, when the track was wet at first, meant we were playing catch-up from therein. Qualifying is the key to success in Formula E. This weekend showed once again that it is difficult to get to the front if you start from the middle or back of the field. Alex got off to a great start and climbed five places. Unfortunately, he then made a mistake which saw him drop to the back of the field. He tried to work his way back into the race, but had to retire with a broken suspension after hitting the wall. António worked his way through the field, but then got stuck outside the top ten. We ultimately benefitted from retirements and managed to pick up a point. Every point helps, but that is definitely not what we wanted to achieve here.”

António Félix da Costa (#28 BMW iFE.18, qualifying result: 20th place, race result: 10th place, FANBOOST voting: 2nd place, points: 47):

“It was clear after qualifying that it was going to be difficult. Particularly at a circuit where there are hardly any overtaking opportunities. All the safety car periods meant that nobody needed to conserve energy and the pace of all the cars was virtually the same. It was almost impossible to make an overtaking manoeuvre. Having said that, we did manage to score a point. We must analyse why our pace was so poor in the wet, especially as it was okay in similar conditions in Ad Diriyah and at the test in Valencia. We must now concentrate fully on the next race in Sanya.”

Alexander Sims (#27 BMW iFE.18, qualifying result: 13th place, race result: DNF, FANBOOST voting: 14th place, points: 18)

“That was an up and down day. Some sessions were better than others. The pace was actually okay. In the race, I had a fantastic opening lap. I was aggressive but considered, which paid off. However, I then learned another lesson about Formula E: in this series, it is so easy to make a mistake in these cars, as they are difficult to drive at the limit. My front wheels locked under braking on lap two and I missed the corner. My race was over from that point on. I found myself at the back of the field again. I pushed and tested the limits, then I hit the wall and that was the end of my race. I will try to take the positives from this and to finally have a clean weekend. If I can do that, we will get the results that our work actually deserves.”

The BMW i Fleet

BMW i is “Official Vehicle Partner” of the ABB FIA Formula E Championship in Season 5. Spearheading the BMW i fleet is the BMW i8 Coupé Safety Car, modified with BMW M components (combined fuel consumption: 1.8 l/100 km; combined energy consumption 14.0 kWh/100 km; combined CO₂ emissions: 42 g/km)*. As well as the BMW i8 Coupé, the BMW i fleet also includes the BMW i3s (combined fuel consumption: 0.0 l/100 km; combined energy consumption: 14.3 kWh;





combined CO₂ emissions: 0 g/km)* as “Race Director Car” and the BMW 530e iPerformance (combined fuel consumption: 2.2-2.1 l/100 km; combined energy consumption: 13.6-13.3 kWh/100 km; combined CO₂ emissions: 49-47 g/km)* in its role as “Medical Car”.

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The values for fuel consumption, CO₂ emission and energy consumption shown were determined in the standardized test cycle according to the European Regulation (EC) 715/2007 in the version applicable at the time of type approval. The figures refer to a vehicle with basic configuration in Germany and the range shown considers optional equipment and the different size of wheels and tires available on the selected model. The values are already based on the test cycle according to the new WLTP regulation and are translated back into NEDC-equivalent values in order to allow a comparison between vehicles. With respect to these vehicles, for vehicle related taxes or other duties based (at least inter alia) on CO₂-emissions the CO₂ values may differ to the values stated here.
Effective 06.12.2018

Further information about the official fuel consumption and the official specific CO₂ emission of new passenger cars can be taken out of the „handbook of fuel consumption, the CO₂ emission and power consumption of new passenger cars“, which is available at all selling points and from Deutsche Automobil Treuhand GmbH (DAT), Hellmuth-Hirth-Str. 1, 73760 Ostfildern-Scharnhausen, and under <https://www.dat.de/co2/>.

